



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Mark Johnson, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

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MEMORANDUM

To: Directors, Exceptional Children Programs
Exceptional Children Coordinators, Charter Schools

From: Sherry H. Thomas
Director, Exceptional Children Division

Date: May 1, 2020

Flexibility with PRC 118 Funding and Application for Additional Funding

Given ongoing fiscal challenges associated with school closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Exceptional Children Division is granting flexibility in the usage of PRC 118 and PRC 119 funding. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 provides the option for set-aside funds to local education agencies, charter schools and state-operated programs for specific areas of need for students with disabilities. Typically, in NC, these funds support the provision of related services, autism training and coaching through PRC 118, and preschool initiatives through 119. School closures have prevented some of the activities locally planned and budgeted for with PRC 118 and PRC 119 funding. Thus, flexibility will be granted for the use of these funds as long as spending is aligned to the PRC 118 and 119 Chart of Accounts, [located here](#). Please note, no new funding codes will be added to the Chart of Accounts in the immediate future. Current budgets for PRC 118 and 119 will need to be amended, to reflect changes in spending plans. No updated plan will need to be provided to the EC Division or the Office of Early Learning.

In addition, the Exceptional Children Division is making available additional PRC 118 funding to help meet the challenges of school closures. [This application](#) is for Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to request up to \$5,000 for Traditional and \$1,000 for Charter LEAs, for expenses allowable in PRC 118 Chart of Accounts. After approval and prior to allotment of these funds, LEAs will need to submit a budget amendment. All funding is contingent upon review and approval by DPI staff.

Above all, it is critically important that LEAs focus on expending their older funds first, so there is no need to revert federal funds that may be close to liquidation.

For questions, please contact Matt Hoskins at matt.hoskins@dpi.nc.gov or Sherry Thomas at sherry.thomas@dpi.nc.gov.

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION

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